

Soviet Espionage Network On Vast Scale In Australia

CANBERRA (CP) - Australia Wednesday gave to the world details of a vast Soviet espionage network controlled by Moscow through the Russian embassy here worming deeply into Australian life from the external affairs department down to the man in the street.

The plan was revealed in a 100,000 word report published today by a royal commission set up after Vladimir Petrov, third secretary of the Soviet embassy and head of the Soviet secret police in Australia, and his wife, Evdokia, fled the embassy and were given asylum in April, 1954.

The report tabled in the House of Representatives by Prime Minister Menzies, said that in Australia the Russians had two secret organizations. One consisted of naval, army and air force espionage while the other was concerned with other espionage. Both were headed by embassy officials who could claim diplomatic immunity and were thus known as "legal apparatus."

In addition, the Russians were trying to set up a third organization independent of the embassy which in case of war and the closure of the embassy could carry on espionage and fifth column work. This would be known as an "illegal apparatus."

STOPPED OPERATION

But the report said that so far as the commission was concerned neither of the two espionage organizations headed by embassy officials operated after Petrov's departure.

The report conceded that Russian spies had some success in getting confidential information from the external affairs department between 1943 and 1949, but since then there had been no trace of any significant leakage.

The leakages were suspected in 1948 and consequently the then Labor prime minister, the late Ben Chifley, formed the present security service.

Petrov knew only the bare fact that leakages of confidential information had occurred from the external affairs department and

that "Klod" was the code name of an Australian agent involved.

Referring to documents handed over by Petrov, the commission declared: "Material before us clearly shows that suspicions held in 1948 were well founded and that 'Klod' was Walter Seddon Clayton who was a functionary of the Australian Communist party and an active MVD agent, and that Clayton continued his activities at least to 1950, but apparently with no success in later years."

WANTED CIPHER BOOKS

After the arrival in Australia of the Petrovs "a most important design" of the MVD was to obtain through Me. Rose Maria Ollier, cipher clerk at the French embassy in Canberra, the cipher books and knowledge of the French cipher technique.

"If the MVD could, unknown to the French, get the key of their communications, the security not only of France but of the whole Western world might well be in jeopardy. The prize sought by the MVD was indeed great."

In this design one Russian official, identified only as Pakhomov, and later after Petrov, had a number of secret meetings with Mme. Ollier, the last being in March, 1954, but failed to attain their object.

The commissioners were convinced that Mme. Ollier secretly met the Russians and that the MVD gave her £35 and a wrist watch.

ARRESTED BY FRENCH

Mme. Ollier, who was on the staff of the French embassy in Canberra, was arrested in France's Pacific colony of New Caledonia last September and taken back to France. She served 21 months in jail but on July 29 this year a French military magistrate reduced the charges of treason and the passing of military secrets to one of indiscretion. She is expected to be tried by a military court this month or next month.

On efforts by Russia to recruit workers in Australia, the report said that it was only among Com-

munists and Communist sympathizers that the MVD could expect to find willing helpers.

Among the documents handed over by Petrov, the report lists series "G," containing a large amount of data collected by the MVD for espionage; a document in English known as "H" and written by Fergan O'Sullivan, later press secretary to the Labor opposition leader, Herbert Evatt; and document "J," written by a Communist journalist, Rupert Lockwood.

PUT ON HOOK

The report said that the "acts of these men (O'Sullivan and Lockwood) were indirectly prejudicial to the security of Australia not only because of the information they gave but also most importantly because by giving it O'Sullivan was 'on a small hook' in that he had taken the first compromising step which made him vulnerable to future pressure, and Lockwood had more deeply compromised himself."

The commission rejected charges by Evatt that Petrov's documents were fakes.

"We find the Petrovs are witnesses of truth," the report stated. "The commission's report is expected to revive interest in the Petrov affair, making it a live political issue when the report is debated later in the current session of Parliament."

LOT 65 C. W. L.

The monthly meeting of St. Anne's, Lot 65, sub-division of the Catholic Women's League was held on Sunday, Sept. 11th with an attendance of thirty-five members. The meeting was opened with prayer by the president.

The treasurer's report was read. It was moved by Mrs. Linus Trainor and seconded by Mrs. Gus Tierney that \$15.00 be awarded in prizes, to those children on the honor roll in the Diocesan Catechetical examination.

It was moved by Mrs. Dominic McDonald and seconded by Mrs. Michael Murphy that sufficient money be given for repairs to organ and piano, for sautanes for

Murray Harbor

Miss Betty Ann Millar, nurse-in-training at the P. E. Island hospital was the weekend guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Millar.

Dr. Samuel Lowe, Chatham, Ontario, was the recent guest of Mr. and Mrs. Marvyn Johnston.

Miss Belle McLure, Taunton, Mass., spent several days visiting relatives and friends at Murray Harbor North. While here she was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Millar.

Miss Blanche Millar was hostess to alter boys and other minor expenses.

Arrangements were made for the chicken supper. New silver is to be purchased for use in hall. It also was decided to buy and install a sink in the hall.

All members are asked to pay membership fees in October. A report of the annual Diocesan convention is to be given at next meeting.

Messrs. Laurie MacLeod and

ness to the Ladies Aid Society at her home on Tuesday evening, September 20. The president, Mrs. Herbert Llewellyn presided. Fifteen members responded to the roll call with a verse of Scripture and two visitors were present. Following the devotional period, refreshments were served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. Irving Millar. Next meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Gavin Hicken.

Mrs. C. J. MacLure is spending several days in Charlottetown the guest of her niece, Mrs. Louis Simmons.

Miss Myrtle Millar, Charlottetown, spent the past weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Millar.

Mr. Robert VanDerstine, Charlottetown, was the recent guest of his sister, Mrs. Lowell Johnston Mr. Johnston.

Sympathy is extended to the family of the late Wilson MacKenzie who passed away at the P. E. Island Hospital on September 23.

Messrs. Laurie MacLeod and

Eugene McCarthy, left recently for Toronto, Ontario where they have obtained employment.

Mrs. Chester McLure, Montague, was a recent guest of relatives at Murray Harbor North.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lowe, Summerside, and young grandson, Robert Curtis, Quebec, spent several days with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Marvyn Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Glendon Johnston, Summerside were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Willard McLure on September 23.

Messrs. Archie MacLeod and Ernest Graham, Cambridge were recent visitors to Halifax, N. S. the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Carver.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clapp, East Greenwich, Rhode Island, who are vacationing on the island were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Clow.

Miss Norma Clow, Montague, is spending a week's vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Webster Clow.

RESENT WHISTLES

TORONTO (CP)—Whistling locomotives are getting ratepayers down in suburban Etobicoke. Alderwood Home and Property Owners' Association has appealed to council to pass a bylaw prohibiting the "infernal noise" made by trains passing through the district.

ADVICE FOR MOTORISTS

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (AP)—Pope Pius Tuesday gave motorists a golden rule of the road—do as you would be done by. The head of the Roman Catholic Church spoke to road experts from all parts of the world, in Rome for the second world meeting of the International Road Federation. He urged his listeners to devote their energies to cutting down traffic toll.

Believe It or Not!

TRICKY - OCT 5th IS THE 27th DAY OF THE YEAR. WHAT WOULD THE FIGURE BE IF 1955 WERE A LEAP YEAR?

ANSWER: IT WOULD STILL BE THE 27th DAY OF THE YEAR - BUT THE DATE WOULD BE OCT. 4

WHEN LAID 28 LARGE EGGS IN 7 DAYS OWNED BY L.L. NICHOLLS YUCAIPA, CALIF

SIR HANS SLOANE
British physician
WAS ELECTED TO THE
FRENCH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
IN 1708
WHILE BRITAIN AND FRANCE
WERE AT WAR.

THE TOMB THAT WAS ERECTED FOR A PARROT
WAS IN INDIA
IT WAS ERECTED TO HONOR A PARROT
THAT LEARNED TO
RECITE PRAYERS FROM THE KORAN
1766

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You may need extra cash for doctors' bills, for house repairs, to save on a season's fuel supply—or for any sound reason. Don't hesitate—see the bank about it. It's the natural thing to do.

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The local branch of a chartered bank not only provides personal loans but many other banking services of value to everyone in the community.



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